

FEB 1027

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	Korea	REPORT NO.	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 80px; height: 20px;"></div>
SUBJECT	Youth Training in North Korea	DATE DISTR.	26 October 1953
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1. On 30 June 1953 KIM Ung-sun (6855/2019/8642), aged 35 and chairman of the P'yongwon-gun (N 39-15, E 125-38) (YD-2747) Fatherland Defense Association, gave a speech at the P'yongwon-gun Military Training Institute. KIM indicated that a large scale military draft was going on in South Korea, and the only way for North Korea to match it was to keep drafting men even after an armistice was signed. This was to be done to give North Korea protection against South Korea. The Fatherland Defense Association was in charge of all youth training institutes throughout North Korea. They assigned a training leader to each of the institutes and maintained a roster of all trainees in the schools.
2. Youth training institutes were established throughout North Korea in June 1950. This was done to give military training to all young men between the ages of 17 and 36, and all women between the ages of 17 and 25. However, the training institutes were not producing the expected results, and a training leader was assigned to each of the institutes in March 1953. The training leader taught the fundamentals of military training, combat tactics, and weapons. Examinations were given every 3 months to all trainees by the chairman of the local Fatherland Defense Association. All trainees who passed the examination were given a certificate of graduation and were no longer required to attend the training programs. Those who failed stayed on for further training. Graduates were exempted from basic training when they joined the North Korean Army, or if they were drafted.

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